

Washington, D.C.
Nov. 17th, 1862

Dear Mother

I received your letter dated 12 on the 17th and thought I would answer it right off so here goes the pen down on Breaks not we left Soldiers Home last Tuesday night and gave three cheers at all the Houses as we were going by. The old soldiers felt sorry because we were a going to leave but we had orders to march and be at the White House at five in the evening so on marched the mutch talked of Co. K. the best Co. in the Reg. and the best in Washington City. We marched to the White House and detailed the guards for the night and had the first relief go on for two hours then we left a the old Camp and McDowell was on guard at the Camp and besides him so we camped out on the ground that night two slept together we laid one of the rubber blankets on the ground and put the two blankets on over us and the rubber on top and we lay as warm as if we were in a feather bed next day the tents come at about 5 in the afternoon and we put them up in short meter I was on guard in the morning of the next day it is a nice place there is lights all a round the house and on the street there is two at the gate and there is two gaits to guard and each one has ten gas burners on one gate you can see to pick up a pin it is so light at all the places where we guard as ten candles would make your front room we have seven men on at one time and there is a gas lamp at every place there is two beats where we are in winter the white H. I had one of them last night and it rained Sun. but I was all right and letter it come when we have the rubber blankets on we are all right they are 5 or 6 feet square and a hole in the middle for the head to go in they come in the right time for it was snowin like the D when they come. We are camped with in fifty F of Cap Fays Com in the same yard they guard the war Department and navy Department we the White House there is Chandleleers in the front room and there is more than one waggon load of glays in them and looking glayeses 8 feet long. I wish you could see the inside of the room it would make your eyes glitter. I would like to have a watch and stand at the road and see how many officers there would pays by in an hour for they are as thick as the Devel there is more than 15,000 teams go by on this street in one day and darn near as many officers we do not now when we will get our pay. L. Col. Huidekoper bought our Com. all a pair of Gloves. Bully for him. We will move in a day or two the place here overflows in wet weather Here is some of the Rebble Balloon Captured on the R. Ram arcansus give my love to George McClelan and all the rest of the folks so good by from B Soldier, W. A. Cutter